

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A razor cartridge comprising:

a guard portion;

a cap portion;

at least four razor blades positioned between said guard portion and said cap portion, including a first razor blade being positioned adjacent to said guard portion, a last razor blade being positioned adjacent to said cap portion, and at least two interior razor blades being positioned between said first razor blade and said last razor blade, each having a cutting edge and an overall exposure relative to at least two skin engaging surfaces defined by said razor cartridge;

said overall exposure of each of said four razor blades being equal to an average of four individual exposures measured along a length defined by said razor blade for which exposure is sought;

said individual exposures being equal to the length of an exposure line extending between the cutting edge of the razor blade for which exposure is being sought and a tangent line, said exposure line being approximately perpendicular to said tangent line and wherein

said tangent line is defined by two points, one of said points being positioned on a skin engaging surface immediately preceding said razor blade for which exposure is being sought, and the other of said two points being located on a skin engaging surface immediately aft of said razor blade for which exposure is being sought, wherein

said overall exposure of said first razor blade is negative; and wherein

said razor cartridge defines a non-progressive blade geometry such that said overall exposures of said interior razor blades are substantially the same.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 1 ~~claim 3~~ wherein said overall exposures of said interior blades is greater than an overall exposure defined by said first razor blade.

5. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 4 wherein said overall exposure of said first razor blade is positive.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 4 wherein said overall exposure of said first razor blade is neutral.
8. (Currently Amended) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 4 ~~claim 3~~ wherein an overall exposure defined by said last razor blade is not less than said overall exposures defined by said interior razor blades.
9. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 4 wherein an overall exposure defined by said last razor blade is not less than said overall exposures defined by said interior razor blades.
10. (Original) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 8 wherein said overall exposure of said last razor blade is positive.
11. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 8 wherein said overall exposure of said last razor blade is negative.
12. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 8 wherein said overall exposure of said last razor blade is neutral.
13. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 9 wherein said overall exposure of said last razor blade is positive.
14. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 9 wherein said overall exposure of said last razor blade is neutral.
15. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 9 wherein said overall exposure of said last razor blade is negative.

16. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 2, wherein the overall exposure of each blade decreases in a non-progressive manner proceeding from the first or guard blade to the last or cap blade.

17. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 16, wherein the overall exposure of each blade is negative.

18. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 16, wherein the overall exposure of each blade is positive.

19. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 16, wherein the overall exposure of the first, or guard blade is positive and the overall exposure of the last, or cap blade is negative.

20. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 2, wherein the overall exposure of each blade progressively increases from the first or guard blade with the exception of the last or cap blade, said last blade having an overall exposure that is less than the overall exposure of the interior blade adjacent to said last blade.

21. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 20, wherein the last blade has a negative exposure.

22. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 21, wherein said first or guard blade and said interior blades have a positive exposure.

23. (Original) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 4 wherein said overall exposures of said interior blades is between negative 0.04 mm and positive 0.04 mm.

24. (Currently Amended) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 4, ~~claim 2~~, wherein: said first razor blade defines an overall exposure of between approximately -0.05 mm and approximately +0.03 mm.

25. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 2, wherein: said second razor blade defines an overall exposure of between approximately 0.03 mm and approximately +0.023 mm.
26. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 2, wherein: said third razor blade defines an overall exposure of between approximately 0 mm and approximately +0.02 mm.
27. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 2, wherein: said fourth razor blade defines an overall exposure of between approximately -0.046 mm and approximately +0.002 mm.
28. (Original) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 1 having intrablade spans, wherein the intrablade spans decrease from the guard to the cap.
29. (Original) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 28 wherein said largest intrablade span is not greater than 1.65 mm.
30. (Original) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 29 wherein said smallest intrablade span is not greater than 1.20 mm.
31. (Original) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 1 further comprising a plurality of wash-through openings defined by a rear surface of the razor cartridge, and a longitudinal wedge-shaped surface extending lengthwise across the razor cartridge and positioned so that the longitudinal wedge-shaped surface is aligned with the wash-through openings.
32. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 20 further comprising a plurality of transverse wedge-shaped surfaces each extending across one of said wash-through openings, so that during a shaving operation said longitudinal and transverse wedge-shaped surfaces guide shaving debris generated during the shaving operation to said wash-through openings.